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Veterinary REPORT

College of Veterinary Medicine
University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign

Spring 1993, Volume 17, No. 1

Lifelike Surgery Models Enhance Learning and Save Animal Lives

BY TANIA BANAK

Now that lifelike soft-tissue surgery models have been developed by veterinarians at the University of Illinois College of Veterinary Medicine at Urbana, veterinary students can expect a different and innovative learning experience.

The color, texture, and handling properties of these plastic teaching models are amazingly realistic. Picture a plastic cavity with a three-layered "skin" (corresponding to the skin, subcutaneous layer, and the body wall) stretched over its opening. Cut through the skin and you find—in anatomically correct locations—a liver, G.I. tract, kidneys, uterus, etc. The organs feel moist and flexible, just like the real thing.

It's the realism that makes these innovative new models ideal teaching tools for veterinary surgery classes. Students now have an opportunity to do more hands-on surgery, without having to sacrifice animals, in preparation for the real thing.

It's been a long, painstaking process to develop the plastic surgery models to the point where they are now, and chief

inventor Dr. Cathy Greenfield, a veterinary surgeon at the college, foresees further refinement. But she's pleased with what's been created.

Working with Dr. Ann Johnson, another veterinary surgeon at the college, Dr. Greenfield came up with amazingly realistic organ models, employing designers from the university's School of Art & Design to implement her ideas. The authentically-colored plastics have texture and handling properties similar to the live animal. The individual organs are held in place in a body cavity with velcro, ligatures, or heat treatment.

"The initial investment for the models is about the cost of a research dog," says Dr. Greenfield. "After that, only parts have to be purchased. The economics are better, and it's more humane because we're using fewer live animals."

The models, as well as the individual organs, can be reused. If a particular organ is being used individually to teach specific procedures, only that organ must be replaced once it has been used up.

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The majority of the funding for this project came from the Geraldine Dodge Foundation, with the Bernice Barbour Foundation providing funding for development of the body cavity.

Currently, veterinary students learn basic surgical skills first, then perform some terminal surgeries before progressing to survival neutering procedures on animal shelter dogs and cats. Dr. Greenfield envisions progressing students to mock surgeries on the models right after they've mastered basic surgical techniques. From there, they'd go directly to survival neutering and routine surgeries on animal shelter animals. Surgery during the fourth-year clinical year would be the final stage.

Dr. Greenfield is still finalizing research to determine whether skills gained from the models are equivalent to skills gained during terminal surgeries on live animals.

"If we can demonstrate that these



Dr. Cathy Greenfield (left) supervises as veterinary students David Menjies (center) and Gary Soumar (right) perform an intestinal resection and anastomosis on one of the new soft-tissue surgery models.

models provide as good or a better learning experience, we will consider replacing terminal surgery teaching labs with labs using soft tissue models," she notes.

She projects that with the use of the realistic soft tissue models, students will receive more training than before. Currently, surgeries are performed in teams, with only one student per group doing any single procedure. With the models, all students will have an opportunity to perform each procedure.

"Another application is going to be in abnormal organs," she predicts. "We'll be able to use the models to teach students what kind of margins to take on a tumor, how much of a stomach they should resect, and how to handle surgical problems such as kidney tumors or intussusceptions." And that's without having to find an actual animal that exhibits those problems.

"We feel students trained on models should be even better trained because they'll have more hands-on experience," Dr. Greenfield anticipates. ■

State Ag Department Declares College's Animal Poison Control Center As Official Animal Poison Center For Illinois

BY KIMBERLY MEENEN

In response to a law signed last year by Governor Edgar to create a statewide comprehensive poison control system, the Illinois Department of Agriculture has appointed the Illinois Animal Poison Control Center at the U of I College of Veterinary Medicine as the state's animal poison control center. This designation took place on January 1st.

The law, which went into effect last September, established the Illinois Poison Control System to cover human, animal and environmental poisonings. The System consists of one animal

poison control center and three regional human poison control centers. The three regional human poison control centers appointed by the Illinois Department of Public Health include: Rush Poison Control Center in Chicago; St. John's Poison Resource Center in Springfield; and Swedish American Poison Control Resource Center in Rockford.

The law which established the Illinois Poison Control System did not provide funding. A bill to establish funding is being introduced to the Illinois legislature in March. The bill proposes

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Page 4 • The videotape of the Dr. Erwin Small retirement bash at the Assembly Hall is now available. Order yours today!

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Dean's Corner

Planning During an Era of Adversity

BY DR. TED VALLI

I spoke recently at a College seminar in which I suggested I would speak on planning rather than something closer to my heart, like bone marrow dysplasia. I am not sure how I rate on a relative basis as a planner or hematopathologist, but it is apparent that I got a lot bigger turnout for the former than I would have for the latter. The main message I wanted to bring to the listeners was that the process of planning, while a lot less painful in a period of growth, should not differ in its strategy from a situation where the budget is shrinking. That is, the mission, goals, and priorities of the organization should be understood and agreed on and then those priorities should be translated into an action plan that gets general review and is approved by a faculty consensus.

The planning committee is functioning with more alacrity in our second year of this process due both to the energy of the participants and not in the least due to a better understanding of what it is we are trying to achieve. Too often, in the past, the process of organizational planning was looked on as a defensive measure that could be referred to if higher administration asked for it, and it wasn't given much attention outside of that possibility. The real essence of planning is that it must have firm support by the administration. Faculty, on their part, need to understand that there is a sincere intention to accomplish the immediate goals as they are stated and the long-term goals as fast as the external environment will permit.

Part of planning involves a commitment and acceptance of change. Faculty and staff are most comfortable when there is a very stable environment in which the size of sections within a unit does not change, and other important factors like space allocations are relatively immutable. Unfortunately, if we are to go through the process of reviewing our environment externally at the national, state, and campus levels and internally within the College and then rationally plan to respond to these influences, we must be prepared to see some units wax and others wane. Discipline boundaries may also change in order for the College to meet the challenges of this new decade. In this process, the leaders need to assist with the formulation of the plan and then empower others to carry it out.

One of the interesting consequences of faculty buying into the planning process is that the discussion on priorities can get very lively as people begin to realize that they are contributing to meaningful decisions in the life and development of the school. If we are able to establish the culture of effective planning while budgets are shrinking, we should be very well positioned to capitalize on better times if and when they occur.

One of the problems facing all of our 27 schools of veterinary medicine is how clinical information is stored and retrieved. The concept of a Computerized Medical Record is one which has tantalized veterinary medicine since the beginning of the computer era and for most of us is a distant goal—a gleam on the horizon which seems to recede as we approach it. The Association of American Veterinary Medical Colleges (AAVMC) has established a committee to look at the problems of developing a comprehensive Hospital Information System.

I conducted a survey on behalf of the AAVMC to first of all establish the criteria for an ideal hospital information system and secondly to determine what systems are currently available. It is difficult for us to learn from each other in this context because as fast as programs move among schools they are adapted to local conditions to the point that they are no longer compatible systems.

A comprehensive information system that would serve clinical care, teaching, and research through retrospective studies as well as maintaining management aspects of patient records would be a tremendous boon to our schools of veterinary medicine. In addition, the ability to communicate with a common nomenclature would be an extremely powerful tool for veterinary medicine in permitting determination of regional and national disease referrals as a partial basis for determining research priorities.

Our colleagues in human medicine are looking at the problems of providing quality health care in rural and lesser populated areas. One of the major strategies that is becoming available is a system of clinical consulting, utilizing hospital computer networks. The New York Academy of Sciences has published the results of a symposium on this very topic. Most practitioners now have computerized management systems, and those of us in colleges of veterinary medicine will need to develop rapidly in this area if we are to serve their needs by electronic consultations. The ability to send electrocardiograms over the phone has been with us for some time, but in the current era, it is possible with fast lines and compressed data to also transmit images as well as other data which could give a referral hospital consultant a much better basis on which to provide consultative support.

Outside of that, the sun is shining and spring is just around the corner. ■



Dean V.E. Valli (right) presents a certificate of achievement to Jennifer Harris, one of the Jonathan Baldwin Turner Scholars the college supports each year. By providing a \$2,500 scholarship to promising students in the College of Agriculture, the veterinary college (along with other private donors) encourages scholarly excellence, good citizenship and leadership ability in the recipients. This sponsorship has furnished opportunities for many of these students to pursue a veterinary career.

Dr. Constable Joins Faculty



DR. PETER CONSTABLE joined the University of Illinois College of Veterinary Medicine faculty as an assistant professor in veterinary clinical medicine and section head of food animal medicine and surgery on January 1, 1993.

An Australian by birth, he has spent the last seven years working at The Ohio State University's College of Veterinary Medicine in Columbus, primarily in food animal medicine and surgery.

Dr. Constable received his BVSc with honors from the University of Melbourne in Australia in 1982. He came to the U.S. in 1984 and earned an MS degree from The Ohio State University in 1989 while completing a residency in food animal medicine and surgery. He obtained board certification in veterinary internal medicine in 1990, and completed a PhD degree in cardiovascular physiology at The Ohio State University in 1992.

His research interests include cardiac contractility, cardiac function, shock, and bovine abdominal disorder.

As food animal section head, Dr. Constable hopes to increase the understanding of food animal diseases, especially endotoxic shock and abdominal disorders. He is dedicated to serving the needs of the agricultural community in Illinois and surrounding states.

Dr. Constable has traveled extensively and has worked as a veterinarian in Australia, England, and the U.S. His outside interests include golf, backpacking, skiing, tennis, and playing the piano.

Two University of Illinois fire fighters are surrounded in smoke during a fire at the old Veterinary Medical Research Building on Wednesday, January 13th. The fire was reportedly caused by campus workers who had used a cutting torch to remove an I-beam earlier that day. The unoccupied building was scheduled for demolition, and salvage operations had already begun.



Dates to Remember

April 24-25, 1993
Multi-State Big Bird Conference. presenting information about practical raising techniques and disease management of ostriches, emus, and rheas. Hilton at the Airport Indianapolis, IN. Contact Ken Koelkebeck (217/244-0195).

May 16, 1993
Commencement.

June 10-12, 1993
Class of 1953 40th Reunion, Urbana. Contact Dr. Erwin Small (217/333-2762).

June 27-28, 1993
Illini Benefit Hunter Show, Urbana.

August 12-13, 1993
Midwest Association of Veterinary Pathologists, Wildlife Prairie Park, Peoria, IL. Contact Dr. Carol Lichtensteiger (217/244-8308).

September 18, 1993
Deans Club Tent Party. Football opponent is Arizona. Contact Terry Rathgeber (217/333-2762).

October 7-8, 1993
Annual Fall Conference for Veterinarians. Contact Dr. LeRoy Biehl (217/333-2907).

October 9, 1993
Vet Med Fall Conference Tailgate. Football opponent is Ohio State. Contact Terry Rathgeber (217/333-2762).

Veterinary REPORT

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Safety of Food Supply an Issue for the '90s

WHETHER CONSUMERS worldwide will have consistent confidence in the food supply will be a hot issue for the rest of this decade, according to Dr. H. Fred Troutt, head of the college's Department of Veterinary Clinical Medicine. USDA personnel have called food safety the "issue of the '90s in agriculture."

Dr. Troutt was in Washington, D.C. in December, where he helped organize a national meeting on the food safety issue. Dr. Bill Wagner, the college's associate dean for research,

joined him. The workshop, entitled "Implementing Food Animal Pre-Harvest Food Safety Internationally," attracted 100 invited participants, including members of the U.S. Congress, several foreign governments, the European Economic Community, the World Health Organization and several U.S. government agencies, including various branches of the U.S. Department of Agriculture. Livestock producers, scientists and researchers, meat processors and various commodity groups also participated.

Issues raised at the workshop included the shift in focus from production of an adequate and affordable food supply to environment, animal welfare and food safety.

Pre-harvest food safety research is essential, Dr. Troutt noted. "This research will examine factors influencing on-farm practices that affect food safety, economic output, the environment, sociological issues and animal welfare, to name a few. Development of new economically sound technology that will assure food safety is the goal."

He emphasized that a worldwide perspective on food safety issues is needed. "Voluntary cooperation and participation is possible and will probably succeed at all levels, with the individual producer, with commodity groups, with nations and with global institutions," he said.

The Workshop was sponsored by the Inter-Institutional Program of the Food Animal Production Medicine Consortium which has been funded by the Pew Charitable Trust.

Nuclear Medicine Assesses Chronic Renal Failure

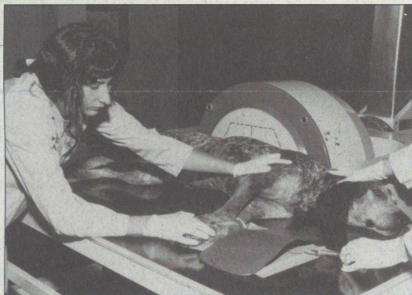
BY KIMBERLY MEENEN

With support from Illinois' Companion Animal Feeding Program and the Chain O'Lakes Kennel Club, Round Lake, Ill., veterinary researchers at the college are developing noninvasive methods to assess canine chronic renal failure, the second most common cause of nontraumatic death in dogs.

Small animal urologist Dr. Donald Krawiec; nuclear medicine specialist Dr. Robert Twardock; and graduate student Dr. Randall Itkin are employing the technology of nuclear medicine scintigraphy as an alternative to the standard invasive methods of determining renal plasma flow in dogs.

Dr. Krawiec explains that current treatment parameters of chronic renal failure are based on dogs that had experimentally-induced renal failure where one kidney is removed, then the other is partially destroyed. Because of the highly artificial nature of inducing renal failure, it is unknown if results from these studies truly correlate with dogs that have naturally-occurring renal failure. In addition, studies using dogs with naturally-occurring renal failure are difficult to perform because accurate assessment of renal function such as renal plasma flow are too invasive and stressful to perform on client-owned animals.

Preliminary study results show that nuclear medicine scans utilizing a renal radiopharmaceutical called "Technetium 99m-mercaptoacetyltriglycine"



Veterinary technician Jean Fisher positions a dog in front of a nuclear medicine gamma camera in preparation for a scan.

are excellent in estimating effective renal plasma flow in dogs with healthy or diseased kidneys. Scans provide immediate, accurate assessment of kidney function and are virtually stress free. In addition, scans do not compromise the critical care of the animal patient. With nuclear imaging techniques, valuable information on naturally-occurring renal failure can be more humanely obtained.

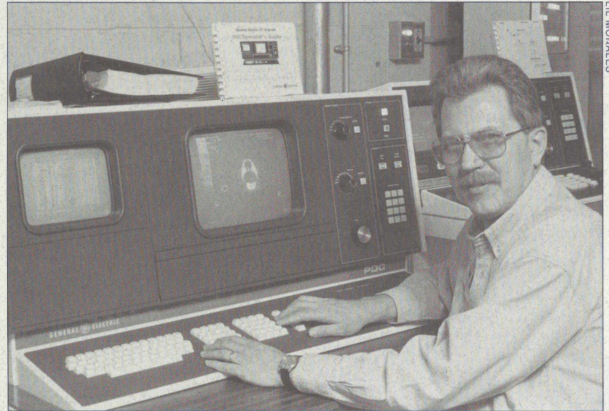
Dr. Krawiec and his colleagues have studied chronic renal failure using scintigraphy for nine years. Their goal is to further develop and validate noninvasive methods to assess renal function for use in client-owned dogs and cats. Their findings could lead to more individualized treatment of chronic renal failure cases. ■

IN THE SPOTLIGHT



Rich Keen: Variety Keeps Him Smiling

BY TANIA BANAK



Clinicians at the veterinary college diagnose the X-rays, but when it comes to knowing the inner workings of the imaging equipment at the college, Rich Keen is the man to see.

An imaging technologist IV, Keen has been with the college since January 1970. He oversees radiology technicians at the college and fills in wherever needed, maintains radiology equipment, keeps inventory and service agreements up to date, and assists in operation of the college's radiology, CT scan, and radiotherapy units.

"When anything technical goes wrong, the first thing we say is 'Rich,'" says Dr. Stephen Kneller, long-time member of the college's radiology section.

There was a time when things were a lot less sophisticated, however. Keen smiles as he recalls the old barn that served as a Small Animal Clinic. He relates how the old hospital table angulation was adjustable with a hand crank. If someone sat at the head end, however, the mechanism wouldn't hold and the table would tilt to vertical. Keen chuckles that it was a form of initiation for newcomers.

"Big dogs we did on the floor, because of the tilting table," he notes.

He also remembers how paint chips would fall from the ceiling anytime the door to the intern quarters on the second floor was slammed. "We had to put cassettes away between uses so they wouldn't get paint chips in them," he says.

When the current Small Animal Clinic was completed, the radiology section got a dedicated unit and an autoprocessor. "It was a quantum leap to have all that equipment," Keen points out.

He enjoys his work. "It's a different thing every day," he explains. Since the late '70s, when students started being assigned to clinics in the summer, things have become easier. Before that, the clinic would hire about four students for the summer and those students did everything: radiology, surgery, medicine, etc.

"There were times when a clinician had to hold his own dog if he wanted a case done, otherwise we'd wait for the hired help (students) to show," Keen notes.

Besides the usual variety of supervising radiology staff; teaching third-year students density, contrast, detail and distortion; ordering replacement equipment and supplies, and maintaining all the imaging equipment, Keen runs into some unique situations on the job. He's X-rayed a mummy for archeologists on campus. He also helped on a project that helped get lead shot outlawed. After hunting season, Keen radiographed duck gizzards to detect lead. "We radiographed thousands," he recalls.

Keen has no regrets about leaving human radiology for the veterinary hospital. It all began when Dr. Ralph Slusher brought veterinary students to Cole Hospital locally to show them radiology equipment. One thing led to another and Rich Keen left Cole Hospital for the College of Veterinary Medicine.

Never a dull day? It's true for Rich Keen. Sometimes he gets spread a little thin because he's in demand for so many different things. He may not be where people want him, because he's somewhere else, helping with a problem. "There probably isn't anything Rich can't do," Dr. Kneller laughs. "If you're in doubt, just ask him." ■

Poison Control, CONT FROM PAGE 1

that just eight cents be added to monthly telephone statements, representing less than \$1 per year for an average family. Funds generated would only be used for the poison control system.

Appropriate funding would provide 24-hour, toll-free telephone numbers for poison information; increase the availability to specially-trained medical and veterinary staff; and eliminate the case charge for the Illinois Animal Poison Control Center to Illinois residents.

"For the first time, Illinois has a chance to provide a solid, cooperative statewide

program," says Dr. William Buck, director of the Illinois Animal Poison Control Center.

"By serving both humans and animals, a comprehensive poison control system offers many benefits," he says. "Such a coordinated system will help prevent human and animal losses, protect the food supply, and reduce health and veterinary care costs."

For more information please call Dr. Buck at 217/333-2053. ■

VETERINARY REPORT SUBMISSION DEADLINES

Please mail entries so they are received by the dates listed to ensure full consideration. Due to space limitations, submissions may need to be edited.

Summer 1993–May 3

Fall 1993–July 27

Winter 1993–Nov. 8

Spring 1994–Feb. 4



College Briefs

● **Mary Gessford**, a histology technician in the college's diagnostic histopathology laboratory, received the William J. Hacker Memorial Award for giving the best presentation in non-clinical histology. The award, consisting of \$500 and a plaque, was presented in September 1992 at the National Society for Histotechnology Convention, held in Monterey, California.

● **Dr. Kevin Byrne**, resident in small animal medicine, received the Northern Illinois Veterinary Medical Association (NIVMA) Graduate Research Award for his proposal on "The Effects of Shampoos on Transepidermal Water Losses, Dehydration of the Stratum Corneum, Skin Surface Lipid Concentrations and Corneocyte Counts in Dogs." The award was announced during the NIVMA's annual meeting in September in Rockford, Ill.

● **Dr. Anthony Gallina**, director designate of the Veterinary Diagnostic Laboratory at the college and a visiting professor in pathology, received the Pope Award from the American Association of Veterinary Laboratory Diagnosticians during the association's annual meeting in Louisville, Kentucky on November 3, 1992. The award is made annually to a worthy recipient who has made noteworthy contributions to the organization, implementation, and recognition of the specialty of veterinary diagnostic medicine.

● **Dr. LeRoy Biehl**, swine extension veterinarian and coordinator of the Continuing Education/Public Service office at the college, was in Costa Rica, South America from Jan. 25-29, 1993. He taught at a shortcourse for the Latin American Continuing Education Center (LANCE), sponsored by the American Soybean Association. Participants included swine managers and swine veterinarians from 11 Latin American countries. He also spoke to the Costa Rica Pork Producers Association on respiratory diseases.

● **Dr. Allan Paul**, associate professor of parasitology and small animal Extension veterinarian at the college, received a plaque from the Eastern States Veterinary Association in recognition of his contributions to their small animal continuing education program. The plaque was presented on January 19, 1993, at the North American Veterinary Conference, held in Orlando, Florida.

Dr. Paul served as chair of the organization's small animal program committee from 1991 through 1993.

● Four veterinary students at the college have been selected as this year's Waltham® Class Representatives. **Peter Braun**, VM 1; **Mary Hernandez**, VM 2; **Linda Berent**, VM 3; and **Ava Ackerman**, VM 4 will serve as a focal point through which the company disseminates pet care, behavior and nutrition information. They receive a scholarship for their efforts, plus become familiar with Waltham pet foods through a special free sampling program.

● **Dr. Gordon Baker**, professor of equine medicine and surgery and Large Animal Clinic chief of staff at the college, has been appointed to a campuswide task group charged with examining three aspects of administrative services at the university: personnel, procurement, and space. The group is being asked to consider procedures in these three areas from the unit level to central administration. They will consider how these areas might be streamlined or reorganized.

● **Dr. Erwin Small**, professor emeritus, has been appointed to the Executive Committee of the National Academies of Practice (NAP). He's serving on the NAP's Forum Committee on Health Care Issues, dealing specifically with financing health care. The forum is scheduled for 1994 in Denver, Colorado.

● **Dr. Laura Dill Morton**, assistant professor in veterinary pathobiology, was selected to receive the \$2,250 Wheaton Kennel Club Award recently. The club makes a monetary donation targeted towards canine research. Dr. Morton's project, entitled "Clinical and Clinicopathological Characterization of Canine Familial Tubulointerstitial Renal Disease," deals with the genetic transmission, clinical manifestations and pathologic lesions associated with a familial form of renal disease in miniature schnauzers.

● **Vet-A-Mix Animal Health** of Shenandoah, Iowa recently contributed \$5,000 to the **National Animal Poison Control Center (NAPCC)**, which operates a 24-hour national animal poison hotline from the college. The funds are targeted for a research project the NAPCC is doing on a possible antidote to pyrethrin and pyrethroid (flea and tick pesticides) poisoning in cats and ornamental birds.

Vet-A-Mix is a pharmaceutical company that manufactures products for the veterinary industry. They have a long-term commitment to research and development of new veterinary pharmaceuticals.

● **Dr. Jo Ann Eurell** and **Ron Eltzeroth**, both associate professors in veterinary biosciences, and **Dr. Cathy Greenfield**, assistant professor in veterinary clinical medicine, along with their dogs, have completed training through the nationwide **Pet Partners Program**. The program, created by the non-profit Delta Society, registers person-animal teams that successfully complete animal health and temperament screening as well as volunteer training. Certified teams are then qualified to provide animal-assisted activities to area nursing homes, hospitals, etc.

Both faculty and their dogs participate in area nursing home visitation programs.

● **Dr. Thomas Eurell**, assistant professor of veterinary biosciences at the college, recently attained board certification in the specialty of toxicology. This makes him a Diplomate of the American Board of Toxicology. Dr. Eurell's research interests include non-specific immunity and alternatives to whole animal experimentation in toxicology. He is one of the organizers of the college's Envirovet program, which teaches environmental toxicology and aquatic animal medicine.

● **Dr. Carl Jones**, assistant professor of veterinary pathobiology at the college, was recently elected as chairman of the editorial board of *Environmental Entomology*, one of three scientific journals published by the Entomological Society of America. He has been a member of the board since 1989.



A
Retirement
Reception
for Dr. Erwin
Small
Videotape.

Now Available!
"It's a Small World"

This 2½ hour videotape documents Dr. Small's gala buffet and retirement reception at the UI Assembly Hall on Oct. 21st. Watch as Medicare 7, 8, or 9, undignitaries, the Small World singers and representatives from many veterinary associations honor Dr. Small. Contains highlights of the buffet reception and recognition program (including the memorable slide show). Cost is \$15 each. If you know Dr. Small, you'll want to add this tape to your video library!

To order contact:
Linda Thorman 217/333-2762.

Alumni Notes

● **Dr. John Clayton**, 1955, Polo, Ill., was featured in a two-page spread saluting veterinarians in the bi-monthly fall issue of *Country* magazine. The story was a compliment to small animal medicine, and numerous veterinarians were praised for their contributions to society through veterinary medicine.

● **Dr. Erwin Small**, 1957, Urbana, Ill., was presented with the AVMA President's Award during his recent retirement celebration. Dr. Everett Macomber, AVMA president, presented him with the award. This award has only been given to two other persons.

● **Dr. David M. Rash**, 1960, has been nominated for 1993 Illinois State Veterinary Medical Association president-elect. He has practiced in Geneseo, Ill. for 30 years, and has served on the ISVMA Board of Directors and as president of the Mississippi Valley VMA and the U of I Veterinary Medical Alumni Association.

● **Dr. Michael M. Pavletic**, 1974, diplomate of the ACVS and professor and head of small animal surgery at Tufts University School of Veterinary Medicine, North Grafton, Massachusetts, has completed a two-year

trial program on "Problem Based Learning for Small Animal Private Practitioners" for the American Animal Hospital Association. Dr. Pavletic is the author of the 1993 *Atlas of Small Animal Reconstructive Surgery*, J.B. Lippincott Co.

● **Dr. Glenn Mayer**, 1977, Chicago, was installed as president of the Chicago Veterinary Medical Association on January 23, 1993. **Dr. Larry Fox**, 1968, River Forest, Ill. is president-elect of the organization. **Dr. Maria Minuskin**, 1985, Chicago, serves as secretary of the group. Illini grads installed on the association's executive board include **Dr. Judy Swanson**, 1977, Chicago; **Dr. Gregg Greiner**, 1982, Midlothian, Ill.; **Dr. Sam Ristich**, 1984, Aurora, Ill.; **Dr. Ed McGinniss**, 1984, Lake Bluff, Ill.; and **Dr. Gery Herrmann**, 1983, Barrington, Ill. **Dr. Sheldon Rubin**, 1968, received the organization's Merit Award for exceptional contributions to veterinary medicine.

● **Dr. Bob Stenbom**, 1978, started a new job with Solvay Animal Health, Inc. in Mendota Heights, Minnesota in October 1992. As a member of Solvay's Professional Services Group, he concentrates on equine projects.

● **Dr. Richard Evans**, 1979, Laguna Niguel, California, was mentioned in the November 30, 1992 issue of *People* magazine. He and his wife, Linda, nurse injured brown pelicans back to health in their clinic, the Pacific Wildlife Project. Brown pelicans are protected by the Endangered Species Act, but fishing lines and hooks and pranks by cruel people take their toll.

● **Dr. Ryan Clarke**, 1982, Boise, Idaho, began work as a federal veterinarian for the U.S. Dept. of Agriculture's Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS) in October 1992.

● **Dr. Darrell Greathouse**, 1991, Huntley, Ill., married Dr. Evelyn H. Bartlett (who interned at Illinois in 1990-91) in July 1992. They both practice at Dundee Animal Hospital.

● **Dr. Randy H. Turek**, 1991, a captain at U.S. Army Veterinary Services, Twentynine Palms, California, recently earned the coveted Expert Field Medical Badge at Fort Irwin. Recipients of the badge must pass written as well as physical tests. Only nine out of 62 candidates completed the requirements.

● **Dr. Richard J. Probst**, 1990, U.S. Army captain based at Camp Pendleton, California, was also one of the nine who received the badge.

● **Dr. Nancy Willerton**, 1991, Phoenix, Arizona, joined a four-doctor small animal practice in Gilbert, Arizona during the summer of '92.

In Memoriam

● **Dr. Joe Simon**, professor emeritus at the college, died on January 20, 1993 at his home in Urbana, Ill. of an apparent heart attack. A DVM graduate of Kansas State University and recipient of a PhD from the University of Wisconsin, Dr. Simon joined the University of Illinois faculty in 1960. He taught pathology courses to veterinary students until his retirement in 1989. Memorial contributions may be made to Sinai Temple, 3104 W. Windsor Rd., Champaign or to Kansas State University, Manhattan.

